

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This office action is in response to amendment filed on 6/17/11. Claims 1, 9, 11, 12, 20, 22, 23, 31, 33, 34, 39, 49, 55, 60, and 65 have been amended and claims 8, 19, 47, 48, 53, 54, 58, 59, 63, 64, 67, and 68 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 7, 9-12, 18, 20-23, 29, 31-34, 39, 45, 46, 49-52, 55-57, 60-62, 65, 66, and 69-71 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The invention of the current application pertains to mechanisms for detecting and evaluating packets and frame transmissions in a wireless communication system having multiple channels with varying channel qualities. Independent claim 1 recites *inter alia* a method for evaluating packets and frames in a wireless communication system having a burst oriented channel, and a corresponding rate indicator channel, the method comprising: monitoring the rate indicator channel; determining the presence of a packet on the rate indicator channel based on a likelihood generated by a maximum likelihood decoder that decodes the rate indicator channel; and analyzing the packet, if detected, to determine whether a frame is valid based on a comparison between a sub-packet identifier (ID) and payload size of the packet with a sub-packet ID and payload size of one or more previous packets. The combination of determining the presence of a

packet on a rate indicator channel based on a likelihood generated by a maximum likelihood decoder, and if a packet is detected from this determination, analyzing the validity of a frame by comparing the sub-packet ID and payload size to sub-packet IDs and payload sizes one or more previous packets is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. Independent claim 1, and independent claims 12, 23, 34, and 39 which recite similar subject matter, are allowable for these reasons and the reasons set forth in Applicant's response filed on 6/17/11.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Abrol et al. (US 7,269,186) – Abrol discloses a protocol for framing a payload (title). Abrol teaches that a frame is positively detected by determining if all the payload bytes specified by the length field has been received. Then a final checksum is calculated and compared to a transmitted checksum to determine whether the frame is positively detected or not (Figure 4; column 8, lines 1-35). However, Abrol does not teach *inter alia* analyzing the validity of a frame by comparing the sub-packet ID and payload size to sub-packet IDs and payload sizes one or more previous packets.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NAM HUYNH whose telephone number is (571)272-5970. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 a.m.-5 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on 571-272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nam Huynh/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/George Eng/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617